

**Governor's Military Affairs Commission Meeting**  
Arizona State Capitol- 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
1700 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007  
September 27, 2007  
10:00 am

**Minutes**

**Call to Order:**

Thomas Finnegan, GMAC Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. The order of business was revised due to presenter time constraints. Agenda item #6 was moved up to agenda item #5.

**Roll Call and Introductions:**

**Present:**

Thomas Finnegan, Co-Chair, Ft. Huachuca 50  
Yuma County Supervisor Lenore Stuart, (joined teleconference at 10:17 am)  
County Supervisor Sandie Smith, Pinal County (teleconference)  
Michael Francis, West Valley Community Action Coalition  
Priscilla Storm, Diamond Ventures, Tucson (teleconference)  
Thomas Browning, Brig. Gen., USAF (Ret.)  
Senator Thayer Verschoor, Senate (arrived at 10:57 am)  
Representative John Nelson, Arizona House of Representatives (left the meeting at 11:45 am)

**Absent:**

Lisa Atkins, Co-Chair, West Valley  
Monsignor Richard O'Keeffe, Yuma  
Mayor James Cavanaugh, City of Goodyear  
Mayor Robert Strain, City of Sierra Vista  
Mayor Robert Walkup, City of Tucson (lost teleconference communication after roll call).  
Dr. William Carrell, Jr., Tucson  
Robert Johnston, Lt. Gen., USMC (Ret.), Tucson

**Ex-Officio Members, Governor's Liaison and Staff Present:**

Anna Chavez, Military Policy Advisor to the Governor  
Angela Shinn, Assistant Deputy Director, Arizona Department of Veterans' Services  
Donald Baier, Assistant Attorney General  
Michael Werner, U.S. Dept. of the Interior – Bureau of Land Management  
Deb Sydenham, Arizona Department of Commerce  
Anna Mendoza, Governmental Relations Coordinator  
June Sinclair, Program Manager, Military Installation Fund, Arizona Department of Commerce  
Mona Engler, Business Analyst, Arizona Department of Veterans' Services

**Approval of the GMAC Meeting Minutes – July 10, 2007**

Co-chair Thomas Finnegan noted for the record a quorum has not been established therefore the minutes could not be considered for approval.

## **Commissioners' Updates**

Commissioner Priscilla Storm reported that the military community relations committee that was formed by recommendation of the military community compatibility committee held their first meeting on September 19, 2007. The purpose of the meeting was to adopt bylaws, this was not accomplished. The next scheduled meeting will be held during the first week of October. This group continues to wrestle with formation and ground rules. The members are primarily comprised of representatives of neighborhood associations in mid-town Tucson. There are some commercial interests. It is following the model the U of A has used in communicating with neighborhood associations.

Commissioner Sandie Smith reported developers are working with the National Guard on the zoning issue by the National Guard shooting range. She is also working with developers on the land fill issue.

Co-Chair Thomas Finnegan provided an update on attempting to obtain best practices. An option to consider is to research what other states are doing to attract people. In addition, he recommends posing a question to the commanders of the state for their input on, "What do they want from the state of Arizona to serve you better?" Upon completion of research and compilation of information a report will be submitted to the Governor for consideration.

## **Arizona National Guard Briefing**

General David P. Rataczak provided a briefing on various topics.

- The Military Family Assistance Fund. The fund currently has one million in cash. This program is designed to assist all military family members.
- Tax Exemption, the general thanked the members of the community for the tax exemption signed into law by the Governor.
- Army National Guard target strength vs. actual assigned strength. The target goal was 5000 members for FY 2007. This target goal was exceeded. There are currently 1,295 Army National Guardsmen deployed.
- Disasters man-made or natural, new construction coming into the state significantly increases the potential for disasters.
  - Military Police Battalion plans to activate within one week.
  - Combat Support Brigade to be created in FY 2008.
  - Military Intelligence Company will increase support for the state.
  - Military Construction currently in progress or future projects total 128 million going to contractors in the state.
- Encroachment issues exist for the Silver Bell AHP training area. Although, Pinal county is supportive, development cannot continually be halted. The National Guard is working cooperatively with county officials on this issue. The Florence Military Reservation faces risk due to increased lease costs and encroachment. The state land department without notice increased the lease on the land. The significant increases will force the National Guard to approach the legislature for assistance in paying the cost of the leases. Training areas are essential to maintaining military readiness.

The Commissioners questioned the constitutionality of the increases. General Rataczak will discuss with his attorney. The Commissioners questioned the feasibility of moving training operations to other locations such as YPG. General Rataczak informed the commissioners they have trained at YPG in the past and found this to be time consuming for equipment to be sent to and from YPG and the costs associated with the travel. The Commissioners also plan to assist the National Guard by discussing this issue with the state director of land. *Action: The Commissioners requested an invitation be sent to the State Land Department for placement on the next GMAC agenda, as well as, the BRAC agenda. The Commissioners also informed Brian de Vallance to "keep in mind."*

Commissioner Nelson mentioned his concern on the current MOU on land use and whether this agreement would continue to be honored in the future. Stuart Goodman on behalf of Animal Farms assured the commissioners that the MOU was crafted in such a way that action cannot be taken without proper notice and agreement from all affected parties. Stuart Goodman will provide a copy of the MOU to Commissioner Nelson for his review to alleviate any fears he may have for the future.

### **Economic Impact of Arizona's Principal Military Operations**

Alan Maguire provided the presentation. Mr. Maguire explained he was contracted to conduct an economic impact study of the military in Arizona and these were his preliminary reports. He reports that deployment had increased and with this increase it is harder to determine economic impacts if there are rotational deployments. An increase in numbers does not mean there is a significant increase in people. The military operations included are Davis Monthan Air Force Base, Fort Huachuca, Luke Air Force Base, Yuma Marine Corp air Station, Yuma Proving Ground, 161<sup>st</sup> Air National Guard (Phx), 162<sup>nd</sup> Air National Guard (Tucson), Army National Guard and the Silver Bell Heliport/WAATS. There has been no methodology developed. The preliminary results are for direct, indirect and induced impacts. The current results for employment, which will change, for FY 2000 were 83,506 employees, output of \$5,663.86 million. In FY 2005 there were 100 – 115,000 employees with an output of \$8 – 8,500.00 million. The initial report has been problematic, in that, the staff has had to search for documents and records to capture data. The next FY report will improve with commanders, staff, GMAC, & ADC beginning to capture data now for the next FY report.

*Action: The Commissioners questioned completion date of the final report. Mr. Maguire plans on finalizing the report within the next couple of weeks and submit to the commissioners. Commissioner Browning questioned the Department of Commerce's data and whether there was a routine cycle for the data. Deb Sydenham will check with head of research and provide this information to the commissioners.*

*Action: Anna Chavez requested Mr. Maguire place a special emphasis on National Guard efforts.*

### **Arizona Governor's Office**

Brian de Vallance provided a report on various topics.

-BRAC Future 2013- He praised the Arizona communities in working cooperatively for the BRAC effort. Also praising individual members of the GMAC, Lisa Atkins, Thomas Browning and Department of Commerce, Deb Sydenham for their work. The next DOD BRAC could be massive. He mentioned Governor Napolitano's role in the NCA, in creating a governors' task force and the excellent job she was doing in integrating Homeland Security, military and the police force.

-Insurrection Act – This act gave the president authority to utilize the National Guard without the Governor's consent and created a tremendous amount of confusion. The Governor worked together with House and Senate leaders in order to change this to include the consent of the governor.

- The National Guard Empowerment Act – is legislation that empowers NCA and other related organizations. He provided an explanation of the highlights of this act and referred to two websites for further information.

*Action: Commissioner Browning mentioned attempting to obtain funding from Washington or the FAA to conduct air space analysis. Brian de Vallance agrees to follow-up on this and would like to push for increased appropriations from the DOD.*

*10 minute break*

### **Military Installation Soft Spots**

Kevin O'Berry provided a project update presentation. Mr. O'Berry reports the ACS focus is sustainment of military facilities, ranges, airspace and ensuring the highest possible level of training operations. The current soft spots study originated with GMAC to identify vulnerabilities, "soft spots" as determined by individual installations. External pressures identified were encroachment of land or airspace, frequency spectrum competition and environmental compliance. Current and forecast status indicators were highlighted in various colors for identification purposes, green indicated mission capable, yellow indicates mission capable with restrictions, and red indicated mission failure and loss imminent for installation. All military installations in the State of Arizona were listed in the yellow color code zone with potential for red.

*Action: The commissioners questioned whether or not cities and counties interpret state laws in the same manner pertaining to zoning issues. Donald Baier of the Attorney General's office will check into why Maricopa county is the only county in state who is experiencing unique zoning issues and speak to the city attorney. Donald Baier will provide a report on this issue in two weeks.*

Davis-Monthan Noise - Mr. O'Berry mentioned Davis-Monthan was experiencing difficulty with the city of Tucson with regard to noise. The Davis – Monthan Colonel is planning on changing the way they fly to decrease noise.

*Action: Commissioner Browning requested the colonel attend the next meeting in November for purposes of obtaining support from the commission on this matter.*

Senator Verschoor stated he absolutely wants to protect Arizona's Military Installations and recommended a possible move for affected bases. Commissioner Finnegan responded the cost would be too much for a military installation re-location. Commissioner Browning mentioned an estimate of a possible re-location was completed for LAF base to move to Gila Bend was 10 billion dollars.

*Action: Co-Chair Finnegan plans on meeting with Lisa Atkins and Kevin O'Berry on legislation.*

### **Arizona Department of Commerce**

Jaye O'Donnell provided a presentation with packets of information and explained the Business Attraction Office. They are the only entity in the state with a one stop shop focusing on environment industries, IT, Aerospace and Defense with special emphasis on foreign development. *Action: Ms. O'Donnell plans on presenting a road map to the commissioners.*

### **Wired Initiative**

Dorothy Harmon provided a presentation on the Wired Grant Work Force Innovation in Economic Development. The Department of Labor is attempting to develop a work force. The state is divided up into political boundaries. Wired is about bringing those siloed systems together. The development of career ladders making it possible for training to keep employees in the same jobs. They are currently creating implementation plans, launching and rolling out a public message.

### **U.S. Army Corp of Engineers**

Chris Bromlow Base Planner for LAF provided an oral presentation on Land Acquisition Military and Construction Project. In FY 03/04 27.3 million funds were initially appropriated to prevent encroachment surrounding LAFB. Project execution activities include limited land and easement purchases, land use controls and associated construction with flight corridors. Guiding principles associated with this effort are safety,

mission and fairness. The number one priority is the safety of neighbors and the community. Barry Goldwater range is integral to LAFB and it is a national military asset. Military construction appropriations reflect congressional understanding of the critical importance of the land use for LAFB flight corridors. The Air Force instruction requires that the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers are the land agents. The property owners have been offered fair market value for property easements, in some cases, actual purchase of their land based on accurate and current appraisals. As a last resort and only after all negotiations have been exhausted will the Air Force acquire land by the process of condemnation. Acquisitions of land surrounding munition storage areas was complete in May of 2005, associated construction was completed in May of 2007. As of December of 2005 all offers were made to owners. As of June of 2007 offers of 40 tracts were accepted. On August of 2006 Assistant of Secretary of the Air Force and a congressional delegation approved the strategy to pursue condemnation for easements within critical areas, clear zones, and not extend offers to land owners.

*Commissioner Michael Francis mentioned there are currently outstanding offers of 19.6 million and questioned whether there was 8.7 million in uncommitted funds? Mr. Bromlow mentioned there were funds were on the table. Michael Francis questioned whether any funds were allocated for Aux – 1. Mr. Bromlow mentioned that the appropriation language is very specific to the projects. Mr. Bromlow explained the FY 03 fund will expire in three days and the FY 04 funds will expire in one year.*

#### **Call to the Public**

No response from the public.

#### **Adjournment**

Co-Chair Finnegan adjourned the meeting at 1:08 pm.